

beyond a very limited circle. The characters which have an obvious reference to originals in high places are names and little more ; in the world of letters he was more at home, and the sketch of Theodore Hook in Stanislaus Hoax is a good deal more ambitious ; but most of the *dramatis personæ* were merely conventional types, and in many cases we may believe that the key-makers in their zeal traced them to originals of whom the author had never heard.